8th February 1955]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Block Advisory Committee for each Block in Malabar district has already been set up.

" (b) The Committee will advise on the problems relating to the National Extension Service Development Block which it represents.

" (c) On the advice of the officers connected with the scheme."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are Government aware that these Committees are not functioning properly, that there are no monthly meetings of the committee, that the proposals made by the Members of the Committee are not heard and that whenever there is a meeting of the Committee, proposals are placed before the Committee and passed? Will the Government be pleased to take some steps for the proper functioning of the Committee so that Members also may get an opportunity to place their proposals before the Committee and get them through? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the committees are required to meet at least once in two months. Members are certainly welcome to place their proposals before the Committee. I shall see that these proposals are duly considered at the meetings of those committees."

SRI S. THINAKARASAMI THEVAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that proper attention is not paid to the suggestions made by the non-official members of the advisory committees? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know what the hon. Member means by the word 'proper.' It is open to non-officials to make their suggestions. The officers concerned will certainly examine them. But the non-officials cannot expect the officers to accept every one of the proposals made by them."

Earnings by prisoners in jails.

* 566 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the amount of money earned by prisoners in jails by their labour during the year 1953–54?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Rs. 8,356."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" What are the various kinds of labour that produced this income and which kind of labour is popular among prisoners? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It all depends upon the prisoners concerned. One variety of labour may be popular with certain prisoners and another with certain others. Mainly they are being used in Textile factory in Coimbatore, boot-making factory in Vellore and also in carpet-making. We have got a carpentry factory in the Penitentiary."